

ADEQ  
Vehicle Emissions Section  
Guidance Statement

Purpose: Opacity Testing of Light Duty Diesels

Effective Date: January 1, 2006

Review Date: January 1, 2007

Applicability: Light Duty Diesels Class Code 2 (over 4001 lb. GVW)

Responsibility: Emission inspection personnel

Guidance Statement:

**The following vehicles have been identified as possibly being adversely affected by the loaded opacity emissions inspection:**

Light Duty Diesel Mini pick-up, such as Nissan, Toyota, and automobiles, such as Mercedes Benz 240D, Toyota Camry and others which are equipped with **four cylinder diesel engines**, and having a GVW of 4001 lb. or greater, but less than 4800 lb.

**Light Duty Diesel** vehicles that fall into the Class Code 2 (4001 lb. or greater), may have difficulty reaching the designated load rating when operated on the dynamometer. This condition may cause excessive opacity readings and/or the vehicle may not be able to reach the testing speed. The GVW on the effected vehicles exceeds the Class Code 2 (4001 lb. or greater), rating by a small margin, usually within 200 lb. When a **four cylinder, Light Duty Diesel** powered automobile or truck is presented for emissions inspection, the inspector must verify the Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) before beginning the inspection.

**The inspector should perform the initial emissions inspection using the normal Class Code for the vehicle. Should there be an excessively high opacity reading or the vehicle is unable to reach the test speed, the inspector shall stop the test and do the following:**

- a. Abort the initial test and start a new inspection by changing the Class Code of the vehicle to Class Code 1 (4000 lb. or less).
- b. Perform the opacity inspection as required and note the opacity reading. If the vehicle is able to reach the test speed and the opacity reading is not excessively high or passes, the inspector should finish the inspection and print the Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR).
- c. If the vehicle is able to reach the test speed and still has a failing opacity reading, then the vehicle should be considered failing the test. The inspector should finish the inspection and print the Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR).

(document last edited 11/27/06)